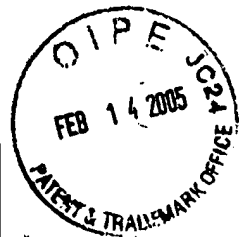


IFW



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|             |   |                 |                                 |
|-------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Applicant:  | GILL et al.   | Examiner:       | Unassigned                      |
| Serial No.: | 10/629,529  | Group Art Unit: | 2653                            |
| Filed:      | 7/29/2003   | Docket No.:     | HSJ920030016US4<br>(HITG.056PA) |
| Title:      | METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENHANCING THERMAL STABILITY,<br>IMPROVING BIASING AND REDUCING DAMAGE FROM ELECTROSTATIC<br>DISCHARGE IN SELF-PINNED ABUTTED JUNCTION HEADS HAVING A<br>SELF-PINNED BIAS LAYER EXTENDING BEYOND THE FREE LAYER |                 |                                 |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 8, 2005.

By: 

David W. Lynch

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action dated January 4, 2005, in which a Restriction requirement was made, the claims of Group II (9-25) are hereby elected, without traverse. Please cancel the claims of Group I (1-8) without prejudice for prosecution in a related patent application.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, a telephone call to the number indicated below is invited.

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By: 

Name: David W. Lynch  
Reg. No.: 36,204